

These smaller companies need protection, they need fairness, they need equity. These companies need the kind of attention and relief that we are providing for the single employer. This legislation doesn't do it.

Let us defeat this legislation and then embrace it and include all the workers.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator has used 3½ minutes.

Mr. KENNEDY. I yield the floor.

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, what is the time remaining?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Senator KENNEDY has 32 seconds; the Senator from New Hampshire has 6 minutes 32 seconds.

Mr. GREGG. Does the Senator wish to make any further statement?

I yield the Senator 2 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, it is interesting. Pensions are sort of like health insurance. We all have it in the Senate. We all have good health insurance, unlike the rest of the 270 million Americans. We all have good pensions.

Can you imagine how many Members of the Senate would be over here now if we said over 20 percent of the Senators are going to see their pension effectively undermined?

That is what we are effectively saying to the workforce in this country. We are looking out after 80 percent. There is another 20 percent out there. We all have good ones in here. Why don't we at least make sure, if we are going to protect the 80 percent of American workers, that we protect the other 20 percent?

That is the issue that is before the Senate. It is an issue of fairness in how we are going to act for workers in this country. That is why I hope Senators will vote no.

I thank the Senator from New Hampshire for his courtesy, as always. I appreciate it.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Hampshire.

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, the issue before the Senate is how we correct an imminent problem, an immediate problem that many pension funds are facing because the present way their payments into their pension funds are valued is based on an instrument that no longer exists, the 30-year Treasury bond; therefore, they are being asked to contribute an artificial number which has no relationship to the actual interest rate charges and revenues or interest rate return that the marketplace would naturally generate.

The practical effect is \$80 billion will be misallocated within the marketplace. The practical effect is that a significant amount of investment—the purchase of machines, the purchase of things which make things more efficient, contributions to people's employment and other areas, including wages—will be impacted negatively because dollars will be artificially moved, rather than where they are most efficiently used, meaning a loss of jobs.

The companies will be less competitive, the people who work for these companies do not have the support they need in the way of capital equipment and compensation, and there will be a negative impact on employment in the marketplace. We need to correct that in the short term. This is a short-term bill, a 2-year bill.

The Senator from Massachusetts has raised some very legitimate concerns about where the multiemployer plans are going, but that is a very complicated issue. This bill is a very small attempt to address the most severely distressed elements of the multiplans. It has targeted language to address a few individual plans which are employer plans which are under clear stress—specifically, airlines and steel companies—but it does not try to solve all the problems.

The understanding behind this bill is that we are going to come back to this issue, hopefully promptly, for long-term substantive review of the question and a fix. This is a 2-year bill. The most important part is to get the 30-year bond issue straightened out so the \$80 billion is not misallocated and the jobs that would be lost are not lost. That is why we need to pass this bill at this time.

I urge adoption.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. All time is expired.

Mr. GREGG. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays on the question.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The question is on agreeing to the conference report.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. REID. I announce that the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. EDWARDS), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CRAPO). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 78, nays 19, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 68 Leg.]

YEAS—78

Alexander	Boxer	Clinton
Allard	Breaux	Cochran
Allen	Brownback	Coleman
Baucus	Bunning	Collins
Bayh	Burns	Conrad
Bennett	Campbell	Cornyn
Biden	Cantwell	Craig
Bingaman	Carper	Crapo
Bond	Chambliss	Dayton

DeWine	Inhofe	Pryor
Dole	Inouye	Roberts
Domenici	Jeffords	Rockefeller
Dorgan	Johnson	Santorum
Durbin	Kohl	Schumer
Enzi	Landrieu	Shelby
Feinstein	Levin	Smith
Frist	Lieberman	Snowe
Graham (FL)	Lincoln	Specter
Graham (SC)	Lott	Stabenow
Grassley	Lugar	Stevens
Gregg	McConnell	Sununu
Hagel	Miller	Talent
Harkin	Murkowski	Thomas
Hatch	Murray	Voinovich
Hollings	Nelson (FL)	Warner
Hutchison	Nelson (NE)	Wyden

NAYS—19

Byrd	Fitzgerald	Nickles
Chafee	Kennedy	Reed
Corzine	Kyl	Reid
Daschle	Lautenberg	Sarbanes
Dodd	Leahy	Sessions
Ensign	McCain	
Feingold	Mikulski	

NOT VOTING—3

Akaka	Edwards	Kerry
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The conference report was agreed to. Mr. FRIST. Mr. President I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. DASCHLE. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, for the information of colleagues, in terms of the schedule, we will not be in session tomorrow. There will be no further rollcall votes today. We still have some business to do, which I will comment on shortly.

On the Monday after recess, we will have no rollcall votes on that day. I will come back and announce the specifics of the schedule later today or tonight.

We are making real progress on establishing the universe of amendments for the FSC/ETI bill. We will continue to work. We have made real progress over the course of the day in the area of this important bill.

We have a number of issues to address over the course of the afternoon. Again, there will be no rollcall votes tomorrow. We will not be in session tomorrow. We will have no rollcall votes on the first day back after the recess.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arizona.

#### ADOPTING A DRUG-TESTING POLICY BY MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 335 submitted by this Senator earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 335) expressing the sense of the Senate that Major League Baseball clubs and their players take immediate action to adopt a drug-testing policy that effectively deters Major League Baseball players from using anabolic steroids and any other performance-enhancing substances that create a competitive advantage for, and

pose a serious health risk to, such players and the children and teenagers who emulate them.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arizona.

Mr. McCAIN. Mr. President, I am joined today by my colleagues Senators BIDEN, FITZGERALD, ALLEN, BREAUX, DORGAN, and many others in submitting this legislation which calls on Major League Baseball and its players to adopt a legitimate drug-testing policy.

The resolution expresses the sense of the Senate that Major League Baseball's current drug-testing policy stops short of what is necessary to protect the game, its players, and the children and teenagers who emulate them.

As Major League Baseball starts a new season—a time that ordinarily signals renewal and promise—a dark shadow of public suspicion looms over the game and its players. Sadly, the talk amongst baseball fans is less this year about which team will win the World Series and more about which athletes have cheated by using performance-enhancing substances. Action is clearly needed by Major League Baseball to address this problem and refocus its fans' attention to what takes place on the fields of play.

The sport of baseball is America's pastime and an institution inextricably interwoven into the fabric of our culture. If Major League Baseball and its players fail to act to preserve and protect the sport by adopting a drug testing policy that effectively deters the players from using anabolic steroids or any other similar performance-enhancing substances, this important part of our culture will remain tarnished. The resolution we are introducing today would call on Major League Baseball and its players to restore legitimacy to professional baseball and make the welfare of the sport more important than the self-serving interests that have a choke hold on America's game.

As chairman of the Commerce Committee, which has oversight authority over professional sports, and, more importantly, as a parent, let me be clear. There are real consequences to demanding anything less than clean professional sports. As discussed during a recent Senate Commerce Committee hearing on steroid use in professional and amateur sports, the failure to insist on stringent drug testing policies damages the integrity of the games and calls into question records set by those suspected of using performance-enhancing drugs.

No reasonable person would disagree that using any performance-enhancing substance for the sole purpose of gaining a competitive edge over an opponent is cheating. And, simply put, any sports organization that turns a blind eye to drug use among its athletes is as guilty of cheating as the players. This cheating and the negative effect it has on the integrity of any sport is shame-

ful, and Major League Baseball and its players must cease treating the issue of drug testing as just another bargaining chip. But more worrisome still is the poor example set by professional athletes in the eyes of the kids who idolize them and are led by their example.

Some may doubt the powerful effect that athletes have on the lives of kids. Let me remind them of the five-fold increase in the sales of the steroid-like substance androstenedione—better known as “andro”—that occurred after Mark McGwire admitted to using the substance in 1998 while chasing Roger Maris's home run record. Since then, the problem of harmful supplement use among children and teenagers has reached epidemic proportions. According to the Department of Health and Human Services, nearly 12 percent of high school boys and 3 percent of high school girls use steroids. This is unacceptable.

The adverse health consequences associated with such use are indisputable. Medical experts warn that the effects on children and teenagers include stunted growth, scarring acne, hormonal imbalances, liver and kidney damage, as well as an increased risk of heart disease and stroke later in life. Psychologically, steroids have been associated with increased aggression, suicide, and a higher propensity to commit serious crimes.

Today we call on Major League Baseball and its players to step up to the proverbial plate and implement a drug testing policy that will effectively deter players from using anabolic steroids and other similar performance-enhancing substances. We cannot, and will not, allow professional baseball to collectively bargain away the legitimacy and history of the sport. The current drug-testing regime is simply unacceptable, and without quick and significant change to the way the league tests for drugs among its athletes, the owners and players will continue to be viewed by the public as the knowing perpetrators of a shameful fraud.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution and to not allow the integrity of professional baseball to be choked by the foul ambition of those who cheat.

In today's East Valley Tribune in Arizona is a letter to the editor. It reads as follows:

I am a 12-year-old Boy Scout working on my communications merit badge. One of its requirements is to write a letter to the editor of a local newspaper on a topic I believe in.

I think baseball players should not take steroids.

The letter goes on—this is from Hunter Amos of Chandler, AZ—to talk about the need for baseball to bring about a meaningful drug-testing program. This from a 12-year-old Boy Scout.

It certainly proves the American people are involved and concerned about this issue.

I would like to state the following very briefly. One, organized baseball, Major League Baseball, and its players union have to come together and resolve this issue with a meaningful drug-testing program. A good model would be that which the minor leagues of baseball employ. It seems to me, since it is already in being, that the major leagues could just adopt the same procedures as the minor leagues.

Second, the blame is not entirely on the players. Part of the blame is on the owners. Commissioner Selig stated before our committee: It was the last issue and they refused to budge, and we gave in because we didn't want a work stoppage.

I understand that, but it is an indicator the owners were not that concerned about it; otherwise, they would have held fast.

More importantly, this is for the good of two groups of Americans: One, Major League Baseball players. But, two, young Americans, high school athletes all over America who today believe the way to athletic excellence is to take performance-enhancing drugs. That is wrong. Statistics, as well as anecdotal evidence, from high school coaches all over America are telling us young Americans, young athletes are using performance-enhancing drugs in greater and greater numbers. Who are their role models? The major league athletes themselves.

We are not picking on baseball. The NFL has an excellent program. The other professional leagues do as well, and Major League Baseball obviously has one that is termed by many as a joke.

I could spend a lot of time mentioning Curt Schilling—who is one of my personal heroes; unfortunately he has left the Diamondbacks and is now with the Red Sox—was quoted in Sports Illustrated as saying:

Some of these guys look like Mr. Potato Head.

Some of these guys look like Mr. Potato Head? The damage some of these individuals are doing to themselves is really terrible, but far more terrible is the damage young high school athletes and college athletes are inflicting on themselves because of the precedent and example of Major League Baseball players. My greatest hero was Ted Williams. When I was a young, mediocre high school athlete, I probably would have been tempted to emulate him.

All of us are aware a sense-of-the-Senate resolution has no force of law. I also recognize a sense-of-the-Senate resolution is a far cry from actual legislation. But I want to say now I believe I speak for all of my colleagues in the Senate, particularly those of us who have been involved in this issue, that we expect Major League Baseball owners and players to act. We expect them to act quickly. If they do not, obviously we have to explore other options. I do not want the Congress of the United States to be involved in a management-labor dispute. None of us want

that, and I think there will be difficulty because an action of that type is almost unprecedented. But I point out Major League Baseball does have an involvement with the Congress of the United States. They were not ashamed to come to the Congress of the United States to get an antitrust exemption, probably the most generous of any professional sport. Of course, they are engaged in interstate commerce.

I hope Major League Baseball understands we are serious, and the purpose of this sense-of-the-Senate resolution today is taking one step forward. I pray for the good of these young high school and college athletes and even junior high school athletes that Major League Baseball will realize we are serious and take it upon themselves to reopen negotiations and resolve this issue.

I thank my colleague, the Senator from North Dakota, who has been a stalwart on this issue and, in his usual eloquent and persuasive style, has contributed enormously to this debate.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota.

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I follow my colleague from Arizona, Senator McCain, and thank him for his work. He, obviously, once again on this issue, will not let go. He insists we address this issue. I deeply appreciate it. I, like Senator McCain, am a great baseball fan. I grew up in a small town 60 miles from the nearest daily newspaper. When I was a kid, I used to get that newspaper and I would look at this tiny little section, "Major League Leaders." I wanted to see if Willie Mays hit another home run. I loved baseball.

Later, I followed the saga of someone from my own State, Roger Maris, who in 1961 was engaged in this home-run derby with Mickey Mantle. We were so proud in North Dakota of having this home State slugger, Roger Maris, setting a new record for Major League Baseball in 1961.

Baseball was called our national pastime. In fact, last week the President of the United States traveled halfway across the country to throw out the opening pitch. Why? It is a national pastime. People care about baseball in this country. It is a great sport. But something is happening in this sport that ought to give all of us great concern.

Sports Illustrated has a cover story. In the old days when Sports Illustrated had a cover story about baseball, it was about a pitcher, a catcher, a player, or a baseball exploit. Now it is about drugs—Ken Caminiti, Jose Conseco, and others talking about drug use in baseball.

Two years ago, I chaired a subcommittee hearing of the Commerce Committee on this subject. We had representatives from Major League baseball, owners and others. We had representatives of the baseball players,

and we addressed this issue. Then a month ago, Senator McCain chaired the full committee of the Commerce Committee hearing on the same issue. We had the same people involved in testimony.

Do my colleagues want to know something. In 2 years, nothing had changed. There was not even a baby step forward.

They say they initiated a testing program, one test a year, and there is prior notice of the test. That is not a testing program.

Senator McCain offers a sense-of-the-Senate resolution. I know this by itself will not fix the problem, but it will send a message, it seems to me, to all involved that they ought to make progress; they ought to do what is right and do what is necessary.

Two years ago when I held these hearings, we also asked a pediatrician to testify, a pediatrician who is involved in sports. Do my colleagues know what he said? He said we have kids in the sixth, seventh, and eighth grades who are wanting to take performance-enhancing drugs in order to play better football, basketball, perform better on track. Why do they do that? Because they see their idols do it. They see the professional baseball players on the front cover of Sports Illustrated who are taking performance-enhancing drugs. Ken Caminiti said he thought half the players in the big leagues were using steroids, and that he had used them in 1996 during his Most Valuable Player season.

He is out of baseball, says he feels ashamed and embarrassed about his own problems, including a guilty plea for crack cocaine possession in 2002. A Most Valuable Player in baseball says half the players in the big leagues were using steroids.

Does this have an impact? You bet your life it does. It has an impact on American kids, kids who aspire to be involved in sports. It sends a message that the way to improve in sports is to take some performance-enhancing drug. That is a dangerous message. It is the wrong message. People will die as a result. That is why Senator McCain says let's stop this.

Mr. McCain. Will the Senator yield for a question?

Mr. DORGAN. I am happy to yield.

Mr. McCain. As the Senator is well aware, and I want to thank him for his continued involvement in this issue, this will be reported as a sense-of-the-Senate resolution, which we all know is nonbinding. Could the Senator predict what he thinks might happen if we go for another month or two and no action of any kind is taken by Major League baseball? What does the Senator think might happen or could happen?

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I think what certainly could happen and might happen is the Congress might intervene with legislation that is real legislation, not just a sense of the Senate, because this is a significant public issue.

The National Football League has solved this issue. They have rigorous testing for those who play professional football in this country. They testified at the hearing Senator McCain held. Minor League baseball has solved this issue. The commissioner of baseball ordered rigorous, wide testing for drugs in the minor leagues. So it is not as if no one knows how to do this.

Mr. Fehr said in his testimony 2 years ago, and now 2 weeks ago, that this is a matter of privacy for baseball players. It seems to me it is not a matter of privacy. If in private people are taking banned drugs in order to enhance their performance in public, which is exactly what happens in professional sports, the taking of drugs in private in order to enhance their public performance, does the public have a right to understand that and know about that? Darn right, the public has a right to know.

My point is this: When the Sports Illustrated magazine—a wonderful magazine, one I love to read, that chronicles the great sports achievements in this wonderful country of ours—has a cover story of a magnificent baseball player who says nearly half the players in the major leagues are taking some sort of banned substance, I do not know whether he is right or wrong, but I do know this: it ought to be a wake-up call for baseball. It is in their interest, it is in the players' interest, to solve this issue.

There is a great baseball pitcher who used to pitch in the home State of my colleague from Arizona, Kurt Schilling. He is now in Boston. I know 2 years ago, when all of this broke, this wonderful pitcher, perhaps one of the best of all times, what did he say? He thought there ought to be testing. Why? I think the great baseball players understand that this cloud over baseball, as a result of these drug allegations, ought to be removed. It taints the sport. The good players, those who are not on performance-enhancing drugs, understand. They believe there ought to be rigorous testing.

Mr. McCain. Will the Senator yield for another question?

Mr. DORGAN. I would be happy to yield for another question.

Mr. McCain. As the Senator well knows, there are some superb athletes in Major League baseball today, and they are performing magnificent feats. Yet a cloud hangs over their performances both in the minds of the fans as well as many of their fellow players. Why is it, does the Senator think, that these players and owners would not recognize it is in the best interest of baseball itself? If they do not care about the high school athletes, if they do not care about the detriment to their health after they retire, as we see is happening with steroid users in other sports as well as this one, does not the Senator from North Dakota think they would care about the reputable aspects, or being held in disrepute the records they are making as

they are spending the best years of their lives in Major League baseball?

Mr. DORGAN. I fully agree. In rodeo sports, something I care a lot about because I grew up with horses and my father was an excellent horseman, they say somebody has a lot of try. It is an interesting way of describing it, saying he had a lot of try.

Well, I hope when we look back in the rearview mirror and get the testing that is necessary in baseball, the achievements of a baseball player in this country will be the result of both skill and try—I mean somebody who had the determination to do well, had the skill, who put in the time, and did well. But when we read the front cover of *Sports Illustrated*, and they have some magnificent baseball player saying, I had an MVP season, but I was on drugs, in my judgment it colors and taints the exploits and achievements of others.

I hope Mr. Fehr and all of those involved will have a vote of the baseball players or do what is necessary to get a consensus. I am certain a consensus of professional baseball players must surely want to remove this cloud. Again, this is not some mysterious issue for which we do not have a solution. The National Football League has solved it. The minor leagues have solved it. So, too, should Major League baseball.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arizona.

Mr. MCCAIN. I thank my friend from North Dakota, Senator DORGAN. He has been involved in this issue longer than I have. I appreciate the opportunity of working with him on a variety of issues in the Senate.

I would like to make one additional point. I have seen some comments by some observers of Major League baseball, and they are saying: Look, it cannot be too big a problem because Major League baseball is breaking all records and it is more popular than it was before and ratings are higher, so it probably then should not be such a big deal.

I will make two points. There was a recent Pew Research poll that showed 90 percent of people who identify themselves as baseball fans say something needs to be done about steroids. But maybe more importantly, there was a time when baseball was very popular and had great attendance and was the national pastime and everybody was happy, but baseball was segregated. Baseball was a segregated sport. I would argue today, baseball in America is a lot better off now that it is an integrated sport, and I would argue that baseball will be a lot better off once we have a reasonable, workable testing program as far as performance-enhancing drugs are concerned.

For the good of our national pastime, I urge that Major League baseball owners and players sit down together and resolve this issue and then, as they have asked, we can move on to other issues of the day.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid on the table en bloc, and any statements relating to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 335) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

#### S. RES. 335

Whereas, the sport of baseball is widely considered America's pastime and an institution inextricably interwoven into the fabric of our culture;

Whereas, anabolic steroids are substances that are chemically and pharmacologically related to testosterone and promote muscle growth;

Whereas, anabolic steroids are Schedule III controlled substances under the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq.);

Whereas, certain products are sold legally in the United States that promote muscle growth in a manner similar to anabolic steroids;

Whereas, medical experts warn that the health consequences associated with the human use of anabolic steroids or other similar performance-enhancing substances can be dire;

Whereas, medical experts warn that anabolic steroids and other similar performance-enhancing substances can have particularly serious adverse health effects on children and teenagers;

Whereas, these adverse health effects include stunted growth, scarring acne, hair loss, dramatic mood swings, hormonal imbalances, liver and kidney damage, a higher risk of heart disease and stroke later in life, as well as an increased propensity to demonstrate aggressive behavior, commit suicide, and commit crimes;

Whereas, the dangerous and anti-competitive effects of anabolic steroids when used by Major League Baseball players were acknowledged but not adequately addressed by the 30 Major League Baseball clubs and the Major League Baseball Players Association in their September 30, 2002, Collective Bargaining Agreement;

Whereas, the September 2002 Collective Bargaining Agreement does not allow for the imposition of a suspension or fine for a first-time violation of the League steroids policy;

Whereas, the September 2002 Collective Bargaining Agreement does not allow Major League Baseball players to be subjected to more than one unannounced drug test per season;

Whereas, the September 2002 Collective Bargaining Agreement does not prohibit the use of certain performance-enhancing substances that, although legal, promote muscle growth and pose a serious health risk to users;

Whereas, notwithstanding the 2002 Collective Bargaining Agreement, the prevalence of the use by Major League Baseball players of anabolic steroids and other performance-enhancing substances that promote muscle growth and pose a serious health risk, at the very least, appears to be significant; and

Whereas, the use of anabolic steroids and other performance-enhancing substances that promote muscle growth and pose a serious health risk to children and teenagers continues to rise: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That—

(1) the use of performance-enhancing substances such as anabolic steroids poses a

health risk, especially to children and teenagers;

(2) the use of athletic performance-enhancing substances such as anabolic steroids to gain a competitive advantage is tantamount to cheating;

(3) there is sufficient evidence that children and teenagers tend to emulate professional athletes;

(4) the effectiveness of the 2002 Collective Bargaining Agreement to deter Major League Baseball players from using performance-enhancing substances such as anabolic steroids has been called into question;

(5) Major League Baseball and its players should exercise their collective bargaining authority to negotiate and adopt a more stringent drug-testing policy that is sufficient to effectively deter Major League Baseball players from using anabolic steroids or other similar performance-enhancing substances to gain a competitive advantage; and

(6) taking such a step would help—

(A) to preserve the integrity of the game of professional baseball;

(B) to protect the health of Major League Baseball players; and

(C) to discourage the use of performance-enhancing substances such as anabolic steroids by children and teenagers who seek to emulate professional athletes.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### THE 1-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE LIBERATION OF IRAQ

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I would like to speak for a moment about the historic day tomorrow, which is the 1-year anniversary of the liberation of Iraq, and the experience which Senator MCCAIN and Senator CHAMBLISS and Senator COCHRAN and I just had with a few others in meeting the Ambassador-designate from Iraq, Ambassador-designate Rend Al-Rahim.

She has been a leader in the movement for women's rights in Iraq, and has been designated by the Iraqi Governing Council to represent her country here in the United States at this historic time. In listening to her message, it simply should remind all of us of the importance of what we, as Americans, have been doing in support of freedom for the Iraqi people.

I wish to share a few of the comments which she made to us, and a bit of the response to that. First, she is a remarkable woman in her own right; she, as I said, has been fighting for Iraqi rights for a long time. It is no surprise that someone with her background and qualifications has been selected to represent her country in the United States.

Her first remarks were to thank the United States for helping to free the Iraqi people and making an opportunity available to them to govern themselves. She said that the main